

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

1
2 A method and system of performing secure user account
3 purchases in the context of a commercial transaction, such as
4 over the telephone, wherein the customer communicates with a
5 custodial authorizing entity, such as a credit card company or
6 issuing bank wherein such entity has previous knowledge of the
7 account number as well as custodial control of other account
8 parameters such as interest rate, payment history, available
9 credit limit etc. The customer supplies the custodial
10 authorizing entity with the account identification data such as
11 the credit card number and may select one or more of a possible
12 plurality of predetermined payment categories for the
13 transaction, such as which define the dollar amount for the
14 purchase and specific, predetermined time parameters within
15 which authorization by the custodial authorizing entity will
16 remain in effect. The custodial authorizing entity then
17 generates a transaction code which is communicated exclusively
18 to the customer wherein the customer in turn communicates only
19 the transaction code, which is different from their account
20 number, to the merchant instead of a credit card number. The
21 transaction code is indicative of merchant identification,
22 account identification and a designated one of the plurality of
23 predetermined payment categories, and is verifiable in a
24 conventional manner by the merchant without providing the
25 merchant with access to an established, continuing account.